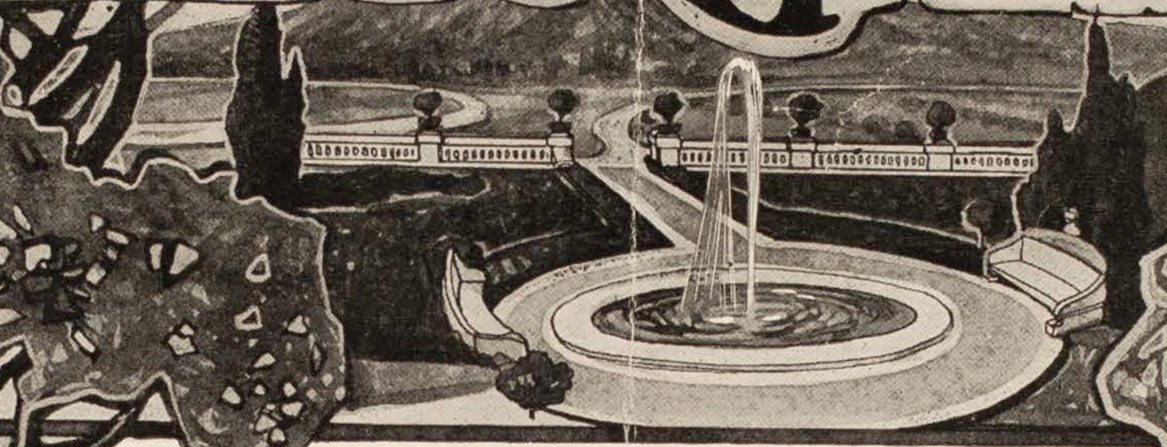
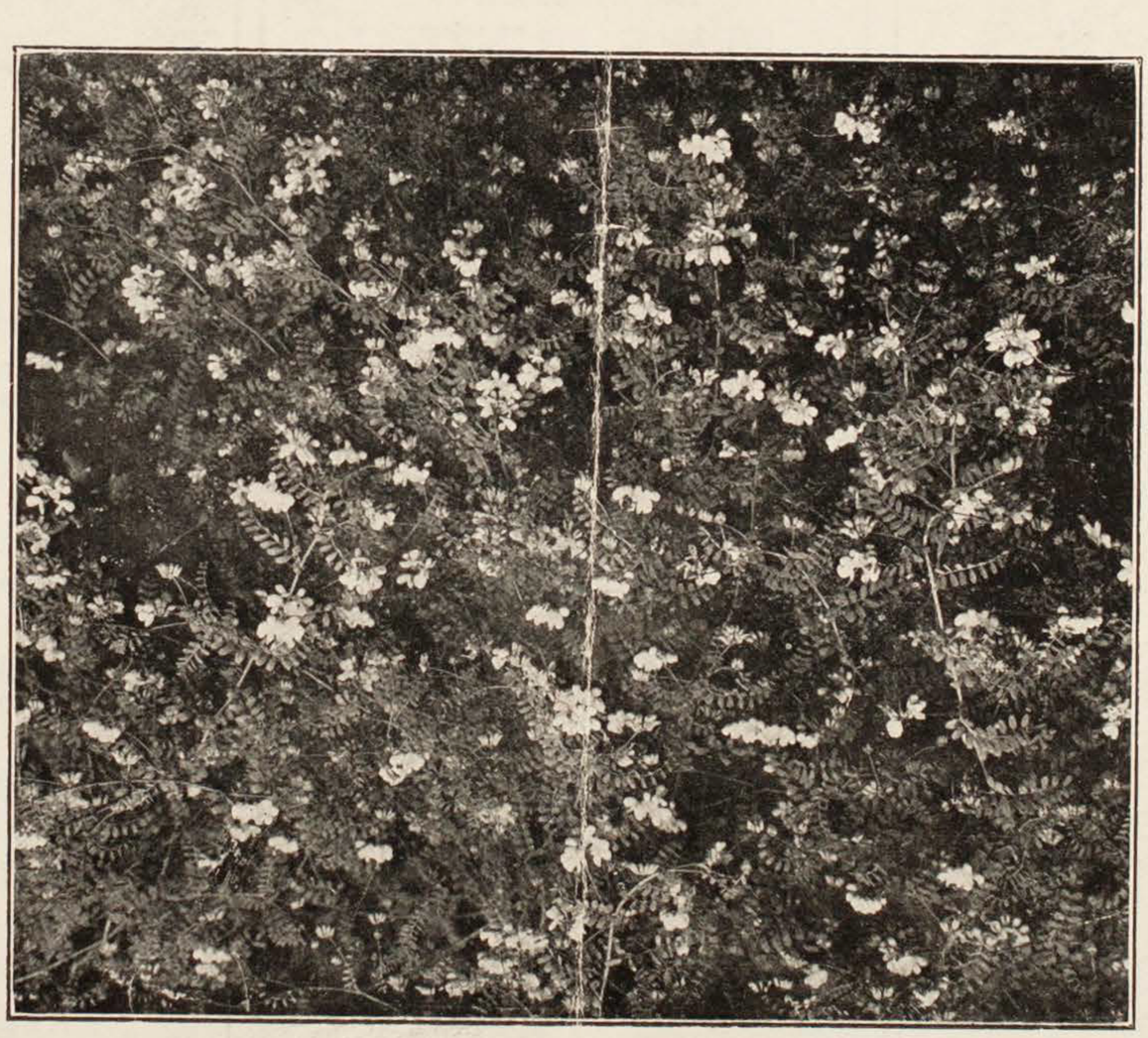
THE PACIFIC GARDEN





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The Pacific Garden

A MONTHLY JOURNAL

FOR THE AMATEUR AND PROFESSIONAL GARDENER

Published on the First of each month under the auspices of the Pasadena Horticultural Society

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Tales of a Traveler-San Diego Exposition

Alladin with his wonderful lamp could not have wrought greater wonders in the vegetable kingdom than the landscape artist has done on the grounds, about the buildings, and in the lath house and the conservatory during the last twelve months. The marvelous part in the accomplishment of this wonderful achievement is, that the ground in which the planting has been done is of the most refractory character; hard pan, mixed with boulders, solidly cemented together. The first essential to success was to make the soil tillable. To do this, dynamite was used in large quantities. No matter how large the fund of available cash appropriated for the purpose, it required a wonderful amount of vision, of courage, and of determination to attempt the work, under the requirement of completion in so short a period of time.

A very remarkable feature of this quick effect with trees, shrubs and vines is that the collection is composed entirely of exotics. I did not notice one native subject.

Eucalypts, most species of which will make a growth of a foot a month, every month of the year, if properly cared for, predominates.

Acacias, especially Latifolia and Floribunda, were also largely in evidence. Noticeable among the shrubbery was Coprosma Baueriana, the foliage of which is so glossy that dust will not adhere to it. Escalonia berteriana, Abelia rupestris, and numerous members of the "bottle brush" family were used with telling effect.

On the east side of one of the buildings is a wealth of foliage plants which for tropical luxuriance I have never seen equaled. Musa ensete, the Abyssinian banana; Cannas, Caladiums, Papyrus antiquorum, and a multitude of other subjects, an object lesson of what may be accomplished in this wonderful land with its even more wonderful climates. The homemaker who attempts to make such a scene, must bear in mind that there are three essentials to success: a location protected from violent winds, fertilizers in unlimited quantities, and water without stint. The climate will do the rest.

THE PRADO – LOOKING EAST

A number of Dracena draco (dragon's blood tree) are in various parts of the grounds. I did not suppose there were so many specimens, so large, in the state.

Eugenia Myrtifolia is used for a greater number of purposes than any other plant.

Lipton's Tea plantation is the greatest advertising joke ever perpetrated on a confiding public; Barnum's woolly horse not excepted. The size of the plot is about 10x20 feet. There are about one hundred plants, planted eight months ago, and with all the care bestowed on them, but few have made a leaf. As an advertisement for Sir Thomas, and as a space filler for city dailies it is a great success, but to the student of plant life who has a desire to study the character of the "tea plant" (Camellia Thea), it is a fake pure and simple. I was curious to know whether the East Indian gardener in charge knew that tea culture on a commercial scale had been attempted in the United States a half century ago, so I put the question to him: "Is this the first tea plantation in America?" He was well posted, and replied that there was a large plantation in South Carolina. After a brief conversation with this swarthy attendant, he remarker, "I see that you know," and excused himself to wait on some customers in the tea house who wished to buy some of Sir Thomas' tea produced on his plantations in Ceylon, where the climate is warm and humid at all times, night as well as day.

The lath house is an immense structure, well filled and well cared for. On a clump of Bamboo in this building is growing a fine specimen of Vitis rutilans introduced to this state a number of years ago by Dr. Franceschi. For a specific name, they have applied the word "Utilis," clearly an error in nomenclature. The plant is characterized by the great number of rose colored adventitious roots, which grow from the branches to the ground, no matter how high they may be above it. For covering pergolas this subject is in a class by itself for beauty and utility.

The glass house, while not large, is well filled with well grown plants. Just a word on conservatories for plants in Southern California: It is a waste of time and of money to build them for anything but strictly tropical plants: fancy leaved Caladiums, Anthuriums, Gesnerias, and such things that must have warmth and moisture all the time, an atmospheric condition not found on this coast, not even during the summer months. Without a knowledge of architecture or of painting it would be folly for me to render an opinion on these two phases of the Exposition; at any rate, the columns of The Pacific Garden is for the gardener and his art. There is just one building of which I desire to make mention. It is the California Building, and to express my appreciation of that part of it known as "Woman's Headquarters." As a quiet restful place, it is par-excellent.

The ladies, for fear of being misunderstood, have graciously placed a card above the permanent sign, on which is written, "Gentlemen are Welcome." As I sat in an easy chair, contemplating the beautiful simplicity—beautiful because simple—the thought came to me, what would this old world be like without the refining touch of woman. Man becomes impatient with her, when as a matter of fact, were it not for her, he would soon sink into savagery. God bless the woman.

One feature of the Exposition impressed me: the quietness that prevails. No howling dervishes who rend the air with announcements of exhibits of fat women, four legged calves, giant snakes, and other fakes; and the absence of games of chance; the bane of all exhibitions I have ever attended in all my life.

This is a wholesome show, and parents can take their children to it without fear of having their morals contaminated with sights and sounds of lewdness, or questionable entertainments.

There are a lot of pigeons in the plaza which are increasing in number and fatness, on grain fed them by patrons of the Exposition. The grain is sold by a fellow, at five cents a sack, who holds a concession for that purpose. Each sack contains an ounce and a half, and few people there be who do not find delight in feeding those pigeons. I noticed two elegantly dressed women sitting on the ground, who were literally covered with birds.

The profits from the concessions of the Exposition are problematical, but there is no question about what they are of the fellow who dispenses grain to feed those birds. He pays forty dollars a ton for it, and sells it at the price before mentioned.

Every man and woman resident of Southern California should visit the show if only for a day. The cost in cash will be to those of limited means, as follows: Round trip ticket from Los Angeles, $5.00; car fare to and from the grounds, ten cents; admission a half dollar; a nickel for grain to feed the pigeons. The 11:55 p. m. train arrives in San Diego at 5:30 a. m. Breakfast at a cafeteria to suit the taste, and the size of the purse of the traveler, a trolley ride over the city before the Exposition gates open, another dime. Lunch may be taken along, and by 2 p. m. one has a satiety of sights, and is ready to come home at 3 p. m. Of course no one is capable, either mentally or physically of seeing and assimilating an exhibition like that in one day. The mind, like the stomach, has its limitations, in capacity, and digestive abilities, but enough can be seen, with the aid of a note book, to think over and talk about for years to come. In conclusion, I wish to record my appreciation of the ability of the landscape artist whose labors transformed a desert into bowers of beauty, with trees and shrubs and vines, and in addition thereto, prepared a descriptive catalog of all these things, which is part of the official guide book, and may be had for a quarter dollar. If readers of these notes cannot visit the Exposition, yet are interested in plant life as it is grown in California, send the price to the architect and author, Paul G. Thiene, a young man of pleasing personality and pronounced ability as landscape artist.

The Fountain of Pan—(Copyright 1914)—California Exposition

The Pacific Garden

Issued on the First Day of the Month

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P. D. BARNHART, Editor

148 WEST COLORADO ST.

PASADENA - - - - - - - - CALIFORNIA

The Phone number of Pacific Garden is Fair Oaks 2148. The Editor resides in Los Angeles, 615 Euclid Ave. His Phone is 41261.

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For 25 cents, The Pacific Garden will be sent for six months, trial subscription. It is the only publication of the kind in the United States. Its primary object is to inform gardeners how to succeed with plants indigenous to countries with arid climates.

Announcement

The Pacific Garden makes the following offers to its readers for the year 1915 as premiums to those who have a desire to add several valuable periodicals to their libraries and at the same time assist in increasing the circulation of the paper. Remember, please, these offers are for new subscribers only.

The Youth's Companion.....$2.50
The California Cultivator..... 1.50
The California Garden, Monthly.. 1.00

Presumably a reader of The Pacific Garden sent in a lot of specimens of plants for identification, the names to appear in its columns. We cannot grant the request for one good and sufficient reason: they were so jumbled and mixed up, having much the same appearance of clover hay after going through a cutting box, that identification was impossible.

An amazing part of this request was, it was not signed. As a rule, all unsigned communications go into the waste basket, and are forgotten. An exception would have been made in this instance, and the names given, had each specimen been laid between two pieces of blotting paper, without touching each other, then weighted down with a heavy book for an hour or two before mailing.

Certainly any one wishing such a favor should be interested enough to make the work of identification possible, by properly packing the specimens.

Edwin Lonsdale, a horticulturist by inheritance and subsequent training, is confined to the Naturopathic Hospital, 1319 South Grand avenue, Los Angeles, for treatment, in hope of restoring failing health. Readers of these lines who have gone through a similar experience know that to be remembered at such times by friends is a benediction.

If within reach of the institution, take him a bouquet, or a choice potted plant, and present it with a friendly greeting. The kindly act will bring sunshine to his soul, and a blessing on the head of the giver.

A bouquet to the living is worth more than a carload of flowers to the dead. A word of cheer in the ear yet sensitive to sound is worth more to the heart of the hearer than the most eloquent eulogy ever proclaimed is to one whose ear is sealed against sound by the reaper whose name is Death.

Yes, visit Lonsdale and let him know that you appreciate his services to the horticultural world, as they were briefly recorded, with his picture, on page 7, October issue, 1911, of The Pacific Garden.

The California Agricultural Experiment Station is co-operating this season with the United States Department of Agriculture in soil surveys of detailed areas around Pasadena and San Bernardino and reconnoissance work in the San Diego region. After the work in these areas has been completed the parties will take up detailed surveys in the Russian River Valley and the Honey Lake district and reconnoissance work in the San Joaquin Valley. Four men from the Station and four from the Federal Department have been assigned to the work. Under the co-operative arrangement adopted for these soil surveys, each pays the salaries and expenses of its own men, while the Federal Government bears the expense of inspecting the work and publishing the report for each county.

This report will be accompanied by a large map showing in colors the location of the various kinds of soils with reference to roads, schools, churches, watercourses and other features of the county. The nature of the soils, their adaptability for various crops and suggestions for the most advantageous use of fertilizers will also be discussed in detail, together with full information on existing agricultural conditions. Several months will be required to prepare the report and map after the survey has been completed.

A few observations of the Editor, on how William Shield, gardener on the Allerton estate, succeeds in growing the finest Gloxinas we have ever seen. The bulbs were two years old when potted, last winter, in ordinary potting soil. The glass is opaque, and shaded with lath covers, the lath two inches apart. The light is bright though subdued. This accounts for the dark green color of the foliage, and the short stout stalks on which the large bell shaped flowers are borne.

For feed, he puts chicken manure in a barley sack and places it in a barrel of water, watering the plants once a week with the liquid which must be weak.

Amateurs who attempt to feed plants with this sort of fertilizer must bear in mind that fowls are destitute of kidneys, therefore the urin is voided with the solid excrement, which accounts for the great amount of ammonia content of the manure, therefore caution must be used, when it is dissolved and used for food for plants.

Another feature of the house was the lack of sand on the benches, which had the appearance of being regularly and vigorously scrubbed. That house of Gloxinias is worth going a long way to see.

His method of support for Chrysanthemums is original, unique, and appears to be the best ever invented. A single wire is stretched at the top of the posts, and instead of cane stakes he uses wire, which costs seven cents a pound—fifteen pieces to a pound, and they will last indefinitely. These stakes he pushes into the ground four inches or more and ties the tops to the wire. By this means the weight of each stem is supported by the stake to which it is tied, and there is no sagging of wires, moreover, it obviates the necessity of using string or raffia to support weak stemmed varieites, before they reach the wire above, as must be done when the wires are stretches a foot apart on a line of posts. It will be well for growers of the Queen of the Autumn, who have not yet put up their supports, to visit these gardens, and learn how it is done.

The Rev. Claudius Spencer, D. D., editor of the Central Christian Advocate, is correct when he says in a recent issue: "It is more than probable that California is the most cosmopolitan spot on this planet. Many other lands of like size have many phases that enter into cosmopolitanism; but California has them all."

SOCIETY MEETINGS

Pasadena Horticultural Society. First and third Fridays of each month, 8 o'clock p. m., in Board of Trade Rooms, 34 South Raymond Ave. Gardeners, whether amateurs or professional, are cordially invited to attend these meetings.

Long Beach, California, Horticultural Society.

The time of meetings, third Thursday of each month, 7:30 p. m. The place, the Public Library. The address of the secretary, 1508 Appleton street.

Los Angeles Horticulture Society. First Tuesday of each month in Kruckeberg Press rooms, 237 Franklin street, 8 o'clock p. m

Some Favorite Bird Retreats in Southern California

By Alfred Cookman

I was thinking that possibly the readers of the California Christian Advocate would be interested in knowing the location of some of the favorite bird retreats in Southern California. There are thousands of tourists visiting this state this year, 1915, and also many residents who do not know where the birds congregate in flocks by the thousands.

The writer, who has been making an ornithological survey in the Southern Division of California, wishes to present in a brief and concise manner descriptions of the various retreats in question.

In Southern California we have forty summer visitant species and eighty species that winter here. They arrive from various states in the Union and Canada. They come to this southern home to feed on the abundance of insect life, crustacea and mollusca, to bathe in the cool water of the lakes, ponds, sloughs, and to build their nests among the ever greens, willows, oaks, and palms of the south. Southern California is the bird retreat, and their songs fill our souls with delight.

The greatest retreat in this southern division of the state is "Nigger Slough," located seventeen miles southwest of Los Angeles and four miles northeast of San Pedro. There are 1,800 acres under the cover of water. Numerous swamp willows and cottonwood trees border the lakes and dense growths of tules are protruding out of the water close to the shore. We have a record of sixty-three species observed in this area.

Birds congregate in places according to their liking—where there is plenty of foot, shelter, water and places to build their homes. All these factors are presented at Nigger Slough.

The Dominguez Slough is located four miles north of Long Beach in Los Angeles county. Recently there has been built a great waterway—a passage for the Los Angeles river through this section of the county to the sea. This passage-way is a great attraction for the birds. On all sides of the river there has grown up a dense growth of swamp willows, so compact are they that one finds it quite difficult to go among them. The goldfinches, Pacific yellow-throats, yellow warblers, house finches and towhees are the most numerous species. They are nesting here now among the swamp willows.

The Domingues Slough lies one mile northeast of the P. E. bridge, among low, rolling foothills in this territory. The slough is about two miles in length and at an average of two hundred yards in width. It extends east and west. All through the marsh tules tower from six to ten feet in height, and is surrounded with a dense growth of vegetation. Here the California cuckoo bird was first reported by the writer as a resident in Southern California. The habits of this species of the feathered tribe has long been a close book to science. Thousands of San Diego red-winged blackbirds are here now. They nest abundantly among the tules and mustard stalks.

All the canyons in the San Gabriel and Sierra Nevada Mountains of Southern California are closely populated bird centers. The beautiful golden eagle may be observed at early dawn in the canyons, the turkey vulture, the master of aerial navigation, has come to be as much a part of California scenery as the mountains or the sea. He and his soberly gowned female, nest in this territory. Several species of woodpeckers, wrens and bluejays are residents of this region.

Beautiful Crystal Lake, located 25 miles northeast of Mt. Wilson, on the North Fork range, is a picturesque bird retreat. We have observed thirty species in this area. It marks one of the famous trout-fishing resorts.

Pasadena and the adjacent foothills and Arroyo Seco is one of the best bird areas in this southland. Its wonderful location at the base of the San Gabriel Mountains and the near sea affords a favorite place in this southern division for the congregation of thousands of birds, beautiful in plumage and sweet in song. Pasadena is the city of flowers and sunshine. Its numerous parks and rural districts are some of the factors that enter into the case in attracting the avifauna to this locality.

Our beach resorts, with their long stretches of sand, rocks and cliffs, and the beautiful parks in the cities proper, are well populated centers. We have a great many varieties of seabirds that frequent our summer resorts. Nine species of gulls may be observed at certain periods of the year. Snipe, curlews and plovers race along the beach at ebb-tide and play a game of tag with the sea.

In the Pacific Ocean there are several islands where birds are numerous, and on these popular peaks several species meet annually. The islands we have in reference are Santa Catalina, San Clemente and the Los Coronados, located about twenty miles southwest of San Diego, and is owned by Mexico.

There are other places of importance that we might go on and enumerate, but will have to eliminate any description of them in this article. We have said nothing about the great Mojave Desert area and Death Valley, the San Diegoan territory, or the Imperial Valley region. All of these places are alive with numerous species of birds. There are 539 species and subspecies of birds recorded as occurring within the confines of the State of California and adjacent islands. There are 377 species that inhabit the San Diegoan territory alone. Over half the total number of species occurring within the confines of this state are residents of Southern California.

We most cordially invite you to visit this territory, and at your convenience wander off into nature's gardens to some of our favorite bird retreats and enjoy the privilege of observing the little feathered songsters at home, at work and at play.

With Fish and Game Commission, California.

Sierra Madre Rainfall

Season 1914-1915

October		0.83
November		0.11
December		5.05
January		8.56
February		8.10
March 1	0.03	
10	0.06	
28	0.83	0.92
Total to March 31		23.57

The month of March, just passed, is the third March in succession with a precipitation much below the mean for the month. In 1913 only .71 of an inch of rain fell in March; in 1914 only .78; and this year only .92, making a deficiency each year of over 4 inches for the month. During the past 26 years there was only one other March with so low a rainfall. In March, 1908, the precipitation was only .63 of an inch.

Rainfall records seldom, if ever, repeat themselves, but there is a remarkable similarity of experience between March 1914 and March 1915. Last year there was no rain between February 21 and March 28, when the dry spell was broken and .78 of an inch fell before the end of the month.

This year, with the exception of light showers on the 1st and 10th of March, no rain of any consequence fell from February 28 to March 28 when .83 of an inch was recorded.

Last year there was a warm spell between the 13th and 22nd of March with a maximum of 90 degrees on the 17th; this year the warm spell was between the 11th and 23rd with a maximum of 83 on the 16th.

Last year there was an average daily excess in temperature, as compared with normal, of about 6 degrees. This year there was an excess of about 3 degrees.—Sierra Madre News.

LANDSCAPE STYLE for the UNITED STATES

By a Landscape Architect

In the wooded hill slopes, the blue skies and the distant sea and valley vistas, the Renaissance garden artist of Italy found the material and the inspiration for the Italian garden wonders. His efforts were directed toward the creating of an environment that filled the necessity of his time; his was a garden not to be looked at alone, but to live in—an outdoor continuation of the residence. And thus he created a boldly formal style of gardening.

His work was followed in other countries. French and English garden designers felt the beauty and charm of the Italian work, and tried to copy it for their country; but realizing that there was missing in their work the element that Italy possessed—the setting of sky, mountainside and brilliant sunshine—they elaborated their work with flower beds and other decorations.

Then came the artists of the English style. They took into consideration the moist and cloudy atmosphere of their home country, its stretches of level plain and its gently rolling fields, and they created the garden style typical of its name, "English." Irregularly outlined lakes and pools replaced the geometrical water gardens, while large fields of velvety grass, bordered by groups of graceful shrubs and trees, brought back the harmony with nature which imported art had destroyed. And in using the word "nature" I do not mean to confine its relation by picturing some certain small valley scene and to say that the English style was based on that alone, but upon nature in its broader phases; cloudy skies and dreary days, which made one appreciate the more the contrast of sunny lawns; nature without the laughing mountain brooks, but with slowly winding, stately rivers; characterized by moisture loving deciduous trees rather than evergreens with the dry air in which they are found. And last, but not least, nature reflected in the character of man; on the one hand slow and phlegmatic, on the other fiery and passionate.

In time the English style, in its turn, found its way to the continent, to France and Germany, and even into the heart of Italy itself. Here fine formality was destroyed for large spaces of drouth burned grass; exotic trees crowded out the native trees, and we cannot blame the Italian artist that he sees in the change only the destruction of the old with no compensation in the building of the new. The English style, beautiful and fitting in its own home, had come to a foreign country and failed in its mission. Some authors, in their love of the old Italian style, call the English style "sentimental," and sentimental and tame it certainly must have looked under the bright blue Italian skies.

The English style also came to the United States, and some of its greatest followers were American landscape architects. They have designed great works in park and garden art. But they worked in the English style, with large areas of shorn bluegrass, which, although in their home surroundings were full of endless perspectives, partly lost, in the bright atmosphere of the American continent, their depth of vista, and in midsummer the perspiring visitor to the scene, unconscious of style or vista, curses the sunniness of these plains.

And yet without doubt our great men have felt the lacking harmony and have sought to improve it; probably also they have found localities where the English style should be used fittingly, and in other places have at least pointed the way to better things. But many of their followers, instead of going ahead in the way indicated, have simply come to greater and greater artificiality. Perhaps where the original style might have been appropriate in some New England state, the same ideas put into effect in the more western states have produced an effect than which the Italian style of old days, as used in England, could not have been more exotic, more artificial. It is abnormal almost to the point of being ridiculous. Here we plant Kentucky bluegrass seed by the ton; irrigate it at an annual cost that I would not dare to estimate, and on this, plant groups of trees and shrubs of which we have forgotten the native habits if we ever knew them. We plant Chinese, Japanese, Dutch, French, English plants, anything that manages to pull through, without knowing the conditions under which they grow in their native state. Some of these plants are so foreign to us that we do not even know their native country. They are planted because the nurseries grow them, not because we want them for any special character of planting. We plant dry ground plants in bottoms, low ground plants on hills, and wonder why they do not thrive, and in our ignorance probably do not even notice how badly they fit in our landscape scene.

And we have educated the taste of the public to our wrong standard. No beauty of landscape is acknowledged any more unless it has a shorn lawn as foundation. We may have native grass, of intense, subtle beauty; as long as it is not clean cut and green as bluegrass is green, we cannot use it. The public does not want it. Of course not; we have educated the public to our exotic standard. We blame the public, but it is we who are to blame.

A style of landscape architecture "for the United States" is something that never can be. No more than an English landscape would fit in Italy, would a New York bit of scenery fit in California. Each section of the country will have to work out its own landscape problems; for some the English effect may be quite appropriate; though our clear sky, warm summers and cold winters due to a continental climate, make it exotic in most places here. For some of our states the solution seems to lie more in the Italian idea of contrast than in the English idea of complete harmony with natural scenery. A close study of nature's characteristics, of the vegetation, soil, climate and other governing conditions, should be the basis of treatment of the landscape question, wherever considered. As a matter of fact, our best landscape artists have been hammering away on the subject of native planting. The true landscape setting for any country will include and emphasize its own vegetation, not an imported one. Countries with a distinctly deciduous tree character should grow in evergreen planting, and should use it for variety only; on the other hand a section with conspicuous tree growth and much shrubbery should use that as the basis for planting.—De B., in Gardeners' Chronicle of America.

E-RYTH-RAE-A VENUSTA

This beautiful annual is more abundant this season than any one of the ten seasons past. It is a spectacular plant when grown en-masse. The salver shaped corolla is a five pointed star, of a beautiful shade of pink, with a yellow or white center. The plant has three peculiarities which distinguish it from all other of the native flora: First, it is a monotypic genus of the Gentian family, in Southern California; second, the stigma does not grow erect as is the case with stigmas of the great majority of flowers, but bends out to one side, and away from the anthers; third, the anthers are spirally twisted, wholly different from those of any other species of plant of which we have any knowledge. To the student, the lover of nature, the man or the woman who have eyes to see, and the ability to appreciate the variety of form, color, and construction of trees, plants and flowers, their study is a never ending source of delight.

War atrophies the human brain. It is impossible for a man to think war and think sense at the same time.—Saturday Evening Post.

AS OTHERS SEE US

Mr. Nicholas Hallock, a Horticulturist of New York, was a visitor to this coast this past winter, spending three months of time seeing and studying plant life as it is grown in Southern California. Although he is in his 88th year, he is alert in mind, vigorous in body, and abundantly qualified to render an opinion of value on questions of Horticulture, he has written his impressions of the love for flowers, as it is manifested in every dooryard of this Southland. While in Pasadena he favored the Horticultural Society with a speech at one of their meetings which was replete with wit and wisdom. At the time he displayed a geography which he studied in his boyhood days, when the word California was unknown, and the territory now known by the appelation, appears on the map, a straw colored space without a name.

We give space to his communication as it appeared in a recent issue of The Florists' Exchange:

"The visitor from the East to this favored land is early struck by the ever present display of flowers in so many varieties. It is true that they have the advantage of a mild climate all the year, so that many kinds live there from year to year by only one planting, but it is equally true that this does not account for the wealth of display.

There is something back of this, and I often ask myself, What is it? The answer seems to be, their love of the beautiful. Rev. Reynolds Hole, the great English rosarian, said that "to succeed with Roses, one must have Roses in his heart." So to have flowers one must have the love of flowers in his heart. Here all seem to have that love. They not only have to plant them, but care for them 9 months in the year with most tender constancy. Every week or oftener they must be watered, then the soil stirred to conserve the moisture. So I notice one continual care. Work ever, water ever, are essential for flowers here, as well as elsewhere. It is true there are some that are native, bear the tropic sun well, but give them care and their beauty is greatly enhanced.

The much admired California Poppy, Eschscholtzia, smiles in greater beauty, if one but pets it. Also, here they seem to have a good sense of fitness of things. So many flowers that are easy to cultivate with us are used, with great effect, in masses, seldom seen at home. The humble Petunia is seen in mass; I have wondered at its effectiveness as a show plant. Its newer strains are grand. So, too, Larkspurs in mass are admirable. Shirley Poppies too, though not so often seen here, are superb. The common Calendulas are made effective by massing; Dianthus in varieties; Coreopsis makes a fine border, very showy and easy to grow and hardy with us. They use here the varieties of Mesembryanthemum to great effect; for holding banks from washing, it is useful, and very ornamental where it would fail with us.

"But do we use all we might? No, here the county roads are planted by the county with Roses; every 100 ft. to 500 ft. an iron trellis is erected, Roses planted to each trellis. These have to be watered or they die. These trellises you see where there may not be a home for a mile, yet all are cared for.

"So it is I say that there must be a love of the beautiful to inspire such a universal care for it. It is an exception to see the humblest home that has not its quota of flowers. This has become so general that this is entitled to be called the "Land of Flowers." But ever bear in mind that they work for them. Is there a way that we of the East can be taught so to love and care for the beautiful? One may say we have so much to do to live. Don't you forget that here, too, the farmer or fruit grower has to work. I hope some good missionary may come to teach our people this love of the beautiful. This would add greatly to our love of home, I am fain to believe."

A Snail Exterminator

For snails in the open ground there is nothing better than the poisoned bran we use for cut worms. Mix one part of Paris green in 50 parts of bran, just dampened with molasses and water to make the poison stick. Mix well so as to get all the bran with a little of the poison on it. Roll into little balls and lay them around where the snails are.—W. F. Massey in The Market Growers' Journal.

The remedy for the extermination of snails is here given because it is from a practical gardener of over four score years' experience, who is yet in the business for the pleasure he gets out of it. We shall be pleased to hear from readers of this paper who are interested enough in their plants to try every known method of ridding their gardens of the snail and slug pest. Of course, after every irrigation, the poison bran bait will have to be renewed, but the question is will they eat it; if so there are gardens and nurseries all over this Southland which should be treated with the poisoned bran bait.

A sharp hatpin, a good lantern, and a still hunt by the gardener every damp night from 9 to 11 is the only effective way of keeping the slug pest under subjection that we know of. Try the remedy of our friend Massey and let us know how it works.

The California Garden, always interesting, always instructive, is of unusual excellence, June number.

"Why Not Have an Annual Festival?" is the caption of an article by Guy T. Keene, which contains so much food for thought that it should be read by thoughtful people of every community and the ideas contained therein carried into execution. Concerning the selection of a queen, he says:

"Select a May Queen—not by ballot, where there may be an incentive for intrigue, and the stirring up of jealousies right at the beginning; not with beauty of face and form as the first consideration. Let it be the duty of some one, two or three persons during the coming year to find some beautiful character, whether young or old, and let the honor come unsought.

The obituary notice of George P. Hall, by the gifted editor, is the finest literary production of the kind that we have ever read.

The meaning of Nature Study is a contribution to the magazine by C. DeW. Scott, that should be read carefully and digested thoroughly by every school teacher in every land. The brilliant advertising of the editor, to sell his Plymouth Rock productions, is worth the price of the magazine if every other part were left blank, and from its pages we clip the following article on the destruction of plant life in New Jersey:

"New Jersey has been ruthlessly stripped of its wild flowering plants. Market men have destroyed the native holly trees of New Jersey, and nursery men have about carried off all that the market men left. In New York State, all over the State, especially in the section just north of New York city and in western New York, from Madison and Chenango counties west, where wild flowers were plentiful, the country has been stripped. It would be a good idea, possibly, to prohibit the removal or destruction of certain wild plants for a period of three to five years, to give the plants a chance to multiply."

If there is not some prohibitory law against the destruction of plant life, on the hills and in the dales of California, the state will share in the same fate that has overtaken New Jersey, at the hands of vandals who go about seeking everything they can devour or destroy.

Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities no doubt crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely and with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old nonsense. This day is all that is good and fair. It is too dear with its hopes and aspirations to waste a moment upon the yesterday.—Emerson.

. . . THEY WISH TO KNOW . . .

Is there a book or pamphlet on the Ferns of California?

None that we know of.

Is it possible to grow Gloxinas without artificial heat, and under glass?

No, not in this climate, with its great range of temperature nearly every day of the year, and the low relative humidity.

Are Primula Sinensis plants superior to Primula Obconica for bedding?

That depends on the taste of the gardener. Some prefer one, some the other. The question is very much like: Which is the prettiest girl?

Is the plant generally known as "Carrot Fern," annual or perennial?

Neither. It is a bi-ennial, and the proper name for it is He-rac-le-um vil-lo-sum. A native of the Caucasus, instead of England as is generally supposed.

How do you account for so many Agaves flowering in Pasadena this year?

Because they have arrived at the flowering age, which is about fifteen years from the time the suckers are taken from the mother plant.

Will Foxglove and Campanula bloom next spring if the seed is planted now?

Yes, if a fungous disease does not kill the plants just about the time they are ready to throw up flower stalks. Our experience with Campanulas is that the ground should not be fertilized with stable manure for a year previous to transplanting the seedlings to where they are to bloom.

Will Helichrysum and Acroclinium bloom this season if the seed is sown now?

Yes. These are known as "everlasting flowers" which if cut before the seed is ripe and dried in the shade will retain their beauty for years.

The first named is a tall coarse plant bearing large flowers; Color yellow. red, white and scarlet. When fully open, if water is sprinkled on them, they rapidly close, as if to resent the insult of the gardener who dares to do such a thing. They are natives of Australia.

The second is a dwarf plant, and the flowers are daintier. They are of two colors, white and rose, very pretty. They should be more extensively grown than they are. They too are from Australia, and in Bailey's new work, known under the name **Helipterum.**

What is the trouble with my rose buds? They open with damaged petals, and my colored Carnations have white streaks in them.

A minute insect known as "Thrip," a pest that is more numerous than the sands of the seashore on this coast, enters the bud while yet enclosed in the calyx and feeds upon the tender petals of the rose which, when it emerges from its green covering, has the crinkled damaged appearance of which you complain. In the case of the Carnation, these pests eat the colored pigments of the petals and they are streaked. There is no known remedy for subduing this insect.

There is also a small worm, about a sixteenth of an inch in length, the larvae of a night flying moth, which devours a few buds. These may be captured and destroyed, and their numbers reduced, but not so with thrip.

Bad as these pests are for destructiveness, they do not compare with the "rose chaffer" of the Atlantic States, which eat up the entire flower. While on this subject of rose bugs and worms, it may be helpful to some gardeners to know that if the tender tips of new growth wilt and turn over, it is sure evidence of the presence of stem borer. Cut the branch below the wilted part and burn it and that pest will be put out of business.

Garden Hints for July

Start with the usual advice, water thoroughly and cultivate deeply. It is not necessary to water the lawn so deep, but water often. Raise the blades of the mower slightly; do not cut so short; leaving the grass a little longer at this time will help to protect the roots.

All early blooming shrubs should be pruned by this time, also Cherokee and Banksia roses, but do not prune shrubs that have not yet flowered; if late flowering shrubs, do not prune until early spring. Watsonia and German Iris if it is possible should not be watered, but cut the Watsonias down and leave them in the ground to rest if they are not to be lifted; if they are to be lifted it is early enough this month anyway.

By referring to J. J. Cantor's article on Chrysanthemums in last month's issue you will get the information you need. Be sure to keep them disbudded and tied.

Carnations will require topping back continually to make them bush out so as to get a large cut during winter. As a friend of mine remarked the other day, summer sown seeds bring winter cut flowers. You will have to be getting your seed order prepared if you have an abundance of bloom in mind for this winter.

For flowers. Sow outside: Calendula, Calliopsis, Cosmos, Dimorphotheca, Gerbera, Gypsophila.

Sow in seed box: Pansy, Stock, Lobelia, Snapdragon, Scabiosa, Coreopsis and Nicotinia, Forget-me-not, Sweet William.

Get the ground ready for Tournament Spencer Sweet Peas. Cut back Dahlias and prune Roses, fertilize and water them for fall blooming.

A Free State Fair--An Experiment

The first free State Fair to be held in the United States will be held in Topeka next September by the Kansas State Fair Association.

Topeka and Shawnee county have just voted a special tax levy with which to pay the Fair premiums and this enables the Fair Association to announce that the general admission gate will be thrown open for the entire week.

The tax levy will give the Fair Association a total subsidy of $27,000, which will be ample to pay all premiums in the various departments. It is believed that the free gate will double or treble the exhibits and attendance. The race premiums, as well as all other expenses not included in the premiums to be paid by the county, will be taken care of with funds secured from concessions, privileges, grand stand and other sources.

While the Free Fair will be an experiment, it is felt that its success is certain. Letters received when the proposition was first launched from leading live stock exhibitors, manufacturers and agriculturists in various parts of the country manifested deep interest in the project, and all indicated their purpose of becoming exhibitors in case the fair was made free. Leading fair men also took a lively interest.

The fair grounds are centrally located in the city of Topeka, only six blocks from the State House. They cover 78 acres and represent an investment of $325,000. The property is owned by the county. Four years ago the county voted $50,000 worth of bonds for improvements and the business men of the city contributed $45,000 more. A number of new buildings were added and much general improvement made.

The Topeka fair is one of the oldest in the West although in one of the comparatively new states. It was begun some 30 years ago and with one or two exceptions has never missed an exhibition.

History Kalamozoo Celery Industry

The first man to raise Celery on the low land near Kalamazoo was Ivan Van Haaften, who raised one-fourth of an acre on the suggestion of Thos. M. Cobb, representative of this district at that time. That was about the year 1867 or 1868. As Mr. Van Haaften could not sell the Celery that fall, he did not raise any more until the year 1873. In the year 1871, L. De Bruin, a gardener of Kalamazoo, raised about one-half acre. This he sold to the hotels there. One year later John Schaal raised about one acre and he was the first man to ship celer yout of that town. These first shipments went to a firm named Rice & Moore, of Grand Rapids, Mich. In 1873 Celery was shipped to other places nearby. In the meantime W. Den Adel came to Kalamazoo from the Netherlands, and a partnership was formed between Ivan Van Haaften, his son, Cornelius, and W. Den Adel. These men went into the Celery business on a much larger scale and were the first to ship as far as New York and Philadelphia, Pa. After a few years this partnership was dissolved, Ivan Van Haaften and his two sons, Peter and Cornelius, continuing the business under the firm name of Van Haaften Gardening Co., under which name the two sons are still doing business.

It was no easy task to raise Celery in those early years of the industry. The largest part of the land had to be worked with the spade, as no one would put their horses on this marsh land. A great deal of it was covered with wire grass, and unless the weather was dry, it was almost impossible to bring such land under cultivation. Oh! the backache we used to have after hoeing in that wiry stuff all day. We soon tired of this, so we got to work and made plank shoes for the horses. The first we made with a heavy leather top, but soon found that the leather stretched when wet. Then we put iron clamps over the top of the hoofs, the same as are used today. We were the first to use boards for blanching the Celery. Today there are millions of feet of lumber used for this purpose, and there are also thousands of pairs of these marsh shoes made and used.

The first Celery raised was the Large White Solid and Boston Market; then after a few years Peter Henderson introduced the Golden Dwarf, and a little later he also introduced the most profitable of all Celery, the White Plume. The best variety for eating is the old Boston Market, or Giant Pascal, but as this kind is not very profitable, it is seldom raised now. Nearly all the Celery shipped from Kalamazoo is of the Golden Self-Blanching variety. Hundreds of carloads of this are shipped every year. It is a nice looking Celery, but it is not in it with the old style Celery for quality. — Cornelius Van Haaften in "Gardening."

Fertilizing Chrysanthemums

It was with some misgivings that Mr. Forsyth took up the subject of fertilization of chrysanthemums. It is the one phase in the growing of exhibition blooms where the amateur is liable to fail. The temptation to use too much fertilizer is always present and the biggest percentage of failures in growing large blooms can be traced to overfertilization.

If the soil is well prepared very little fertilizer will be necessary. The safest material to use is a liquid made from well rotted cow manure. Begin using this after the bud is selected, in a solution about the color of weak tea, gradually increasing the strength as the bud increases in size. The best means of knowing when the plant has been overfed is to watch the foliage. If the leaves take on a yellow cast and become brown around the edges, it is a sure sign that the plants have had too much fertilizer. When the petals begin to show, cease fertilizing. The flowers are sure to be ruined if fertilizing is continued after this period. I would not advise the amateur to use commercial fertilizer until he has grown chrysanthemums for a few years. Where one has enough plants to experiment upon it is good practice. The best way to use commercial fertilizer is to dust lightly between the rows. If by chance it is noticed that the flowers are burned by overfertilization, try to leach the fertilizer out of the soil by copious flooding. Always soak the soil thoroughly before and after fertilizing.

To grow the finest flowers for exhibition the blossoms must be shaded from the hot sun. This especially applies to the pink varieties which should have a double covering to keep the sun from fading them. The best material for shading is unbleached cheesecloth. Construct a frame-work of light material nine feet high in the center sloping down to five feet in height on the sides. Over this stretch the cheesecloth, bringing the cloth down the sides within three feet of the ground, except on the north side, which must be left open to insure a good circulation of air.

Water thoroughly twice a week from the time the buds appear until the flowers are ready to cut.

By the first week in August the buds will begin to appear. The finest flowers are grown from buds selected after the fifteenth of August. Buds selected before this time are liable to produce imperfect flowers. In most varieties of chrysanthemums the finest flowers come from the crown bud. This usually is the first bud to appear and can be known from the fact that it is by itself while the surrounding laterals have two or more buds in a cluster. Should the crown bud appear too early in the season remove it and select one of the closest laterals and remove all other growth. In due time this lateral will produce another crown bud. Save this one to grow the flower from. The process of disbudding merely consists in removing all buds and the laterals which appear in the axils of the leaves. As soon as laterals appear remove them, as they sap the strength from the crown bud. Be careful when removing the buds surrounding the stem as the stem is very brittle and breaks easily. If by accident the crown bud is destroyed, follow the same procedure as when the bud appears too early in the season.

After the buds are as large as a one-cent piece a ridge will form along its circumference making a depression in the center of the bud. At this stage stop all overhead watering as the water will settle in this depression and the flower will rot.

About the time the bud appears the plant will send out long suckers close to the ground and if the ground is mulched these growths will sometimes be six or eight inches before they are discovered. Keep a close watch for all suckers and remove the same as soon as they appear.

J. J. CANTOR.

Botanist vs. Florist

Willie—Paw, does a botanist know as much about flowers as a florist?

Paw—Yes, my son. But he doesn't know as much about the prices people will pay for them.

The article "A Landscape Style for the United States?" is reproduced entire, from The Gardeners' Chronicle of America, for the reason that on this coast the erroneous idea of making an Englist landscape fit into the arid climate of California is persistently taught by gardeners who received their education in the art across the sea.

The theory has cost residents of this state untold sums of money, and they have very little to show for the investment. The Smiley brothers, when they began the improvement of the Heights of Redlands, were wise enough to work in harmony with the laws of nature, instead of against those laws. The result: the finest park in Southern California.

The Mimules Family

Of The NATURAL ORDER SCROPHULARIACEAE

California is famous for the variety and beauty of its native flora. Attractively rich in color are all the members of the Mimulus family, except one, which is characterized by a delightful odor, known as "musk"—hence the appropriate common name "Musk plant." Its habita is in damp places, along streams where, in places, it covers the ground with its light green, soft viscid foliage and stems; indeed when bruised it is a slimy plant. The flowers are yellow, but so small that they attract no attention. Gardeners and greenhouse men in the Atlantic Coast States grow this subject in quantity on account of the delightful odor. In this state it is never found in cultivation.

Some day we hope to have a collection of the whole family, growing under conditions suitable to their requirements.

M. Cardinalis is also a moisture loving species, and because of its large, brilliant flowers, it is a gorgeous sight when in full bloom. The species known as Langsdorfii grandis, found along mountain streams, is also spectacular; the yellow flowers are spotted maroon.

The dry land species, Brevipes, an annual, once known as Lutens, a specific name that should have been retained, because of the bright yellow flowers, paints the Santa Monica hills yellow from May 1st to August 1st.

The most brilliant members of the family are Bigelovii and Fremonti, annuals, with crimson colored bloom, the first with a yellow center, the second a solid color; both of them wonderfully beautiful, both dry land species, and neither of them found in a garden in the state. We sometimes wonder if the time ever will come in the history of this state when its flora will be appreciated at its full value, and cultivated by the residents thereof.

For the benefit of interested readers, who wish to identify the little known members of this family, a brief description of the essential organs to seed production is here given. There are four stamens, each with a double pointed anther, and both being united, they form two four pointed stars in the corolla tube. Didymous, the Greek for twins, is the technical term used by botanists to designate this characteristic of the flower. In this one particular the construction differs from the flowers of other families of plants. The stigma is flat, rounded at the point, and usually divided into two parts.

Coronilla Viminalis

The primary object of The Pacific Garden is to educate plant lovers of California in a knowledge of plant life. Nowhere else in this country is it grown in such great variety, neither is it found in greater perfection, of such species as are adapted to our peculiar climatic conditions. For this purpose, and with this one thought in mind, we spend time, and thought, and money studying the subjects as they are found growing in private collections of plants, and in the various nurseries of the state.

May last, we heard of a specimen of the subject selected for illustration, and discussion this month, growing in Whittier, on the grounds of M. Horne, a nurseryman and florist, who has an inherent love for plants. The place was visited, and so favorably were we impressed with the merits of Coronilla viminalis, as a covering for a scene, to hide unsightly objects on private places, that a picture of the plant was secured, also one of a branch, that the fruit, foliage and flowers might be shown distinctly.

It is evergreen, and blooms profusely during the spring months. It seeds freely, and is easily propagated from seed, therefore the plants should not be expensive. The flowers are white, and light pink, depending upon their age. It is a native of Algeria. The generic name is from the Latin, a little crown, the specific name is from

FRUIT, FLOWER, FOLIAGE OF CORONILLA VIMINALIS

the same language, and used to designate the wormlike seed vessels.

Baily in his work describes eight species, one of which, Glanca, and a variegated leaved variety are growing in this Southland, but we should have the entire lot, because of their drought resistant character.

Trichostema lanatum is now in bloom, and where the shrubs are numerous the landscape is painted a gorgeous violet purple color. The subject was illustrated in September, 1914, issue of this journal, but the writer never having seen it, was not able to tell readers what the plant is like, as it grows in the wild. A trip the latter part of last month through Bouquet and Mint canyons northeast of Saugus, was a revelation to us at the size of the shrub. Woody, it attains to a height of four feet, the flowers growing in terminal spikes a foot or more in length. In appearance, when not in bloom the shrub is very like the blue flowering sage brush. Now is the time to collect seeds. They are four in number, in the bottom of a little saucer, and drop out as soon as ripe, therefore the spike of flowers should be cut by the time it is half through blooming, placed on paper in full sun, that the seed may fully mature. There is one thought that must always be kept in mind when an attempt is made to establish drought resistant plants: they must have attention until the roots go deeply into the subsoil. This will require at least two years' time, after which they will take care of themselves. Moreover, a pot-bound plant, with roots twisted like a corkscrew, requires more time and attention to get it established, than one grown from the seed where the subject is to remain, or transplanted from a pot as soon as the rootlets appear on the outside of the ball of earth. Eventually gardeners and orchardists will learn this lesson, and we shall have more vigorous trees and plants than we have now, and that too with less than half the cost of the present method of growing them.

BIG BEN BINDERS

Subscribers to this Journal who wish to preserve it for future reference, will find in this contrivance a valuable help for that purpose. It is well made, and so simple in construction that the papers are easily and quickly inserted. The title of the publication is stamped in gold letters, which makes it attractive. For one dollar we will send it postpaid to subscribers whose names are already on our books. To a new subscriber we will make a present of the Binder.

Expensive Sweet Pea Seed

The costliest sweet pea blossom that ever flung to the sunlight a banner of beauty and perfumed the air with its delicate fragrance, burst into bloom yesterday in one of the long, low glass houses on Fordhook Farms, W. Atlee Burpee's large testing grounds near Doylestown.

On a stem nearly a foot long—in itself a sign of sap regal—this first "Fiery Cross" to blossom in America vindicated, by its size, shape and flaming hue, the judgment of the well-known Philadelphian who, July, 1914, at the sweet pea show in London, paid the record price of $417 an ounce for the first three ounces of "Fiery Cross" seed ever raised.

One good look at the display of this new variety, which evidenced its rare worth by winning the highest award—the silver medal offered by the National Sweet Pea Society of England—convinced Mr. Burpee there was no use haggling over a price. So he hunted up A. Malcolm, the noted Scotch grower of these lovely flowers, who after many years of trying, finally produced the flaming scarlet hue which characterizes this latest wonder in the flower world.

"How much seed have you?" asked Burpee.

"Three ounces," answered Malcolm.

"Will you take 250 pounds sterling for the three ounces and the right to introduce?" said the American.

"I will," said the Scotchman.

Now, three ounces of sweet pea seed contain about 900 seeds. So for each of the shriveled peas which were packed for shipment with as much care as a pearl necklace, the tidy sum of $1.39 was paid.

It goes without saying that the folks at Fordhook, from owner down, have been watching the "Fiery Cross" test plants in eager anticipation of the day when the first blossoms should appear. Every care known to the experts who look after the 180 varieties of sweet peas there tested each year was bestowed on the four vines which has sprouted out of four $1.39 seeds.

Day before yesterday one bud was beginning to show a tinge of color, and if the sun had not been veiled in gray all day, this first born of the new flower would have been a Sunday child—"bonnie and bright and good and gay." But there was no sun at all—as every one knows—so the premiere was postponed.

But the "Fiery Cross" that made its bow yesterday was just as bonnie and bright and gay as if it had come along on Sunday, and if all goes well, many a garden in this and other lands next summer will be more beautiful because of it—not at $1.39 per seed, however.—Philadelphia North American.

The Vesper Hour

Far over the ocean's trackless waste
The glow of the setting sun
Has cast its fading rainbow rays
Where the long, white billows run,
And the breakers sing their enen-song
As over the sands they stray,
And roll their threnodies drear and long,
As the daylight dies away,
And the seagull folds his soft, gray wings
From flights that were far and long,
And is rocked on the pier where the sad waves sing,
And sleeps to their cradle song.
And the mountains don their kingly robes
Of a royal purple shade,
And lift their heads to their crown of stars
That heaven has on them laid.
And the city that sits by the ocean side,
Where the peaks loom hard a-lee,
Is hushed to sleep at the eventide
To the sea's sad lullaby.
And over the main to the skyline far,
The last faint tinge of gray
Dissolves in the light of the evening star
And the darkness that follows day.
And night enfolds in her sable wings
The children of her care,
And the silent peace of the vesper hour
Is the peace of silent prayer.

—Emma F. Swingle.

Observations on Myrciaria

.... By .... John Hansen

The illustrated article in last issue of The Pacific Garden reminds me of the years I spent in Brazil, and feasted on the fruits of the tree, as it grows in the forests, and the door yards of the natives. An evergreen tree, it is grown for the dense shade it affords during the warm summer days.

It is of very slow growth, therefore does not attain to fruiting size until fifteen to twenty years old. The fruit varies in size from that of a hazel nut to that of a walnut, and is borne in the greatest abundance.

It is no uncommon sight to see the ground covered to the depth of a foot beneath trees of the natural groves which are free from any other species of tree. Seldom is a single specimen met with except in cultivation.

The fruit varies in size, as is the case with all seedling fruits, but the quality is the same; the most delicious of all fruits. When fully ripe it is jet black on the outside, pure white within, the pulp containing three seeds. No attempt has yet been made to propagate it to type. There are trees which bloom profusely, but never set a fruit. The reason for this I was never able to determine. All fruitful trees begin to shed their bark as soon as the fruit has fallen. This moulting process covers a period of about six months; the bark pealing off in patches, after the manner of lemon scented Eucalypt.

South of the equator the summer season begins in November, and the Myciaria trees are in full bloom by December, the fruit ripening during February. It will be interesting to know whether it will change the period of blooming in the North Temperate zone.

Amusing incidents occur when parties of young people go to the groves to feast on the fruit. After a satiety of fruits within reach, while one stands on the ground, the eye wanders over the mass of fruit higher up, and, when one is sighted that is a little larger than its many neighbors, the desire is to go after it. The climb is a slippery one, because the body of the tree and all the larger branches are covered on all sides with fruit. The descent is even more slippery than the ascent, and many a luckless lad whose ambition led him to the top of a tree in quest of large fruits has landed at the foot of it bedaubed with marmalade of the fruit of Myrciaria Cauliflora.

My Dear Barnhart:

In your "Best Rose" list, recent issue of The Pacific Garden, did you not forget some of these? Dean Hole, Edward Mawley, Harry Kirk, Mrs. A. R. Waddell, Mrs. John Laing—one of the oldest, but one of the best today under proper treatment, lots of sunshine and not too much water.

The first of your list, McArthur, Kaiserin and La Detroit, are happy thoughts; the La Detroit one of the best roses sure enough; McArthur a hummer; if Edward Mawley was as good a grower there would be some fighting, as the color beats McA. If I had a red rose or pink or yellow as good as Kaiserin, and the exclusive stock of it, I would make them pay more for the stock than any rose has yet sold for.

In climbers, don't forget we have climbing Rhea Reid and Climbing Winnie Davis—both originating with us and they are hummers sure enough; the Climbing Davis one of the finest things I ever saw. And don't forget Climbing Kaiserin and Climbing White Cochet; this is much better than the Climbing Pink Cochet.

In all probability I will make an exhibit of cut bloom in Los Angeles this fall, for ten days or so, as an education to the dear people.

C. E. HOWLAND.

What Makes Wood Float

That wood floats is such a commonplace fact in our lives that we hardly give it any thought. If we lived in tropical climates we would learn to distinguish between woods that float and woods that do not float. Many of the woods of Mexico and South America are so heavy even when perfectly dry that they will sink in water, notably lignumvitae, which is the wood commonly used for bowling balls.

Among our common native woods there are several that will not float when green. The cypress of the South is often girdled a year before it is cut so that it will die and dry while standing, thus making it possible to float the logs to the mill. At the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis., where the green or dry weight of all wood that is tested is determined, it was found that the green heartwood of some oaks and hickories and the green sapwood of certain conifers is so heavy that when these parts of a tree are put into water, they will sink although the entire log will float.

The reason why some woods float is not because the substance of which they are made is lighter than water, but because the cavities in the cells are so large that the air in them buoys up the wood. The material (cellulose) which composes the greater part of the cell wall is heavier than water so that if the air in the cells is replaced by water, the wood will sink. This is just what happens to wood which has been in water for a long time and has become "waterlogged."

It is the large water content of the heartwood of freshly felled oaks and hickories and of the sapwood of certain conifers that causes these woods to sink, for when dry they will float.

Lignum-vitae and other heavy tropical woods, even when dry, sink because most of the cell cavities are so small compared to the thick cell walls that the air in the cavities is not enough to float the wood.—Bulletin University of Wisconsin.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream"

Remarkable Presentation Promised

The last of this month, on Friday, July 9, and Saturday, July 10, to be exact, Los Angeles is to witness one of the most novel, costly and altogether fascinating events ever promoted in this city, when the Civic Reportory Company, under the direction of Reginald Pole, who, next to his illustrious father, William Pole, is recognized as the most noted Shakespearean producer of England, will stage the Bard of Avon's fascinating, fantastic fairyland play, "A Midsummer Night's Dream," at the base of Eagle Rock, in the nook and natural stadium which has made this charming spot famous all over the country.

Not in the history of the city has so elaborate an out-of-doors production been attempted. Seats for ten thousand spectators will be constructed in the specious amphitheatre which Dame Nature has provided, and already a corps of electricians are at work on the wiring which will light the spectacle.

Nature also furnishes the scenery, the trees, shrubs, elfin glades, everything, in fact, to make the wonderful play a living, breathing thing, and tiny society beauties, many of them graduates from the local dramatic schools, will make just the dearest, cutest fairies and elfs imaginable.

Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn are to handle the big fairy ballet which is to be a feature of the production, and there will be a giant orchestra, under competent direction.

Of course the pretty girls, the myriad of ravishing costumes and the weird lighting effects among the trees will be the features, and work has been going on for almost six months. The illumination power has been drafted from the Eagle Rock high line.

The street railway company is lending the project hearty support and special car arrangements, as well as parking facilities for machines, will make the outdoor theater easy to reach. After the two performances here, the spectacle is to be transferred to the San Diego fair grounds. S. H. Friedlander will manage the undertaking.

During the months of July and August there will be held 382 conventions and congresses in San Francisco in connection with the Exposition. A careful estimate places the number of delegates and visitors who will come to San Francisco because of these conventions at six hundred thousand. The attendance at each convention and congress will range from one hundred to possibly thirty thousand delegates and visitors. Few days are blank during the entire period, and on some days as many as thirty various meetings will be held.—California Christian Advocate.

Two of the most beautiful native evergreen shrubs now beautify the California landscape, Adenostema fasciculatum, a member of the rose tribe, whitens the hills with panicles of bloom. Strange as it may seem, nevertheless it is a fact, that at a meeting of a Horticultural Society of this Southland, not a gardener present knew the name of the plant.

Mimulus glutinosa is the other subject, which is a "thing of beauty and a joy forever." The flowers are a soft shade of yellow, and are borne in great profusion. It is a spectacular plant; one of the few natives which if grown under cultivation and given some water during the summer months, blooms continually. Some botanists have applied the word **Diplacus** to it as a generic name, an idea that we are not in sympathy with, therefore it will always be referred to in these columns as Minulus.

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